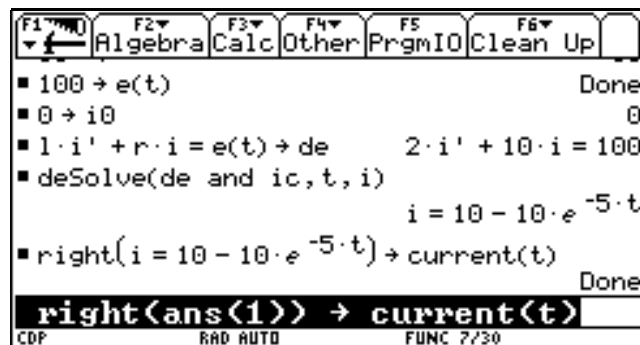


TI calculator solution for current in an R-L electric circuit

An efficient way to execute a sequence of commands on a TI calculator (TI-89 or TI-92) is by way of a “text variable” (refer to Chapter 16 of the TI-92 Guidebook, available online at <http://www.ti.com/calc/docs/92guide.htm>). In the figure below is an example to solve an R-L circuit. Each text line starts with a colon (:) and if the line has an executable command, the colon is preceded by a C. This text variable is set up to solve for current I in a circuit with $\text{EMF}=100\text{V}$, $L=2\text{H}$, and $R=10\Omega$, and with 0 current at time $t=0$.



Press F4 to execute any line the cursor is in, or go to the F2 Command menu to choose 5.Evaluate to EOF to execute all lines from the cursor line down to the end of the text file. Each line is executed in the Home screen. The figure below shows some of the output of this text file.



The final line stores the solution to the DE in a function $\text{current}(t)$. You have the option of storing $\text{current}(x)$ in the variable $y1(x)$ in order to graph or generate a table of values for current . For example, we could graphically answer the following question.

At what time does the current equal 8 amps? Store $10-10e^{-5x}$ in $y1(x)$ and 8 in $y2(x)$. Go to the WINDOW and set the x_{\min} , x_{\max} , and x_{res} values (0, 1, and 5 should do). Press F2 Zoom and then A:ZoomFit in order to fit the two graphs in the screen. Then press F5 Math and select 5:Intersection; follow the prompts to choose the two curves and an interval containing the intersection point. The answer is approximately $t = 0.32$.